

Committee to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, which consists of 24 committed Members of the House and which I co-chair with Congresswoman Lowey, will pay an active role in this discussion. I will include for the record a list of the Members of the congressional committee.

Members of the Congressional Advisory Panel to the National Campaign To Reduce Teenage Pregnancy are: THOMAS M. BARRETT, MICHAEL N. CASTLE, Co-Chair; EVA M. CLAYTON, Vice Chair; RICHARD J. DURBIN, JAMES C. GREENWOOD, W.G. HEFNER, STEPHEN HORN, SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, NANCY L. JOHNSON, Vice Chair; JIM KOLBE, JAMES A. LEACH, JOHN LEWIS, NITA M. LOWEY, Co-chair; SUSAN MOLINARI, JAMES P. MORAN, CONSTANCE A. MORELLA, JOHN EDWARD PORTER, DEBORAH PRYCE, TIM ROEMER, PETER G. TORKILDSEN, LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, CHRISTOPHER SHAYS, KAREN L. THURMAN, and EDOLPHUS TOWNS.

At the local level, communities need to develop programs targeted to the characteristics, needs, and values of its families. Communities know what their needs are and what will be most effective with their teenagers, so it is critical that they design and implement the programs, not the federal government. This legislation will assist efforts of communities, and I hope that my colleagues will join me as a co-sponsor.

Our goal to reduce teen pregnancy is challenging and difficult. But if we work together we can make a difference.

CONGRATULATING QUEENS BOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, this summer an important anniversary is being celebrated in my district, one that is a vital part of the American experience.

The Queens Borough Public Library has now served the residents of Queens for 100 years. During that time, millions of people have walked its halls seeking knowledge and self improvement. Students have found help with their homework, researched information for school reports, and read the classic literature of the world. Newly arrived immigrants have learned the basics of U.S. citizenship, improved their English and received assistance in finding a good job. Families that have been in America for generations have used it to trace their roots.

What is more American than the public library? Public libraries like Queens Borough give people a chance to learn and to become contributing citizens. Such opportunities have nurtured the leaders that have made America the great nation that it is today.

Today, the Queens Library is the backbone of the community, offering 18,000 programs to Queens residents free of charge. Most of the nearly 2 million borough residents live within walking distance of a Queens Library branch.

Libraries are more important now than ever. Increasingly they serve as on-ramps to the information superhighway for those who cannot afford computers of their own. The Queens Borough Public Library ensures that the educational opportunities offered on the Internet are available to all the residents in my district.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Queens Borough Public Library on its 100th anniversary, and applaud its continuing effort to serve the Queens Borough.

SUPPORTING A RESOLUTION OF THE CRISIS IN KOSOVA

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 29, 1996

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise in support of this resolution recognizing the rights of the people of Kosova.

We all heard about the ethnic cleansing, the human rights abuses, and the violence in Bosnia over the past 5 years. The images on television and the horrific stories written in our papers led many of us to say, "Stop the killing!"

Now there is a peace agreement in place, and we are working with others in the international community to restore the faith and trust of the Bosnian people in each other, in their leaders, and in their communities. But what many people may still not know is that there is another troubled region in the former Yugoslavia. It is a place called Kosova. And until the situation in Kosova improves, we will never have a lasting peace in the Balkans.

Mr. Speaker, America can't turn its back on the people of Kosova any longer. The people of Kosova have witnessed human rights abuses by Serbian authorities. They have been the victims of a systematic attempt to shut down their culture and their economy. But the people of Kosova are standing strong today—and we must stand with them. We should not lift the remaining sanctions against Serbia until the situation in Kosova improves.

Mr. Speaker, that is what this resolution calls for. It also calls on Serbia to restore human rights in Kosova, to allow the elected Government of Kosova to meet, to allow people who lost their jobs to be reinstated and to reopen the education system. Above all, it states that the free will of the people of Kosova must be respected.

Mr. Speaker, passing this resolution will put Congress on record as supporting the rights of the people of Kosova.

America is the strongest democracy in the world.

We have an obligation to stand up for human rights. We can do that by passing this resolution in support of the rights of the people of Kosova.

ANSWERING AMERICA'S CALL

HON. PETER G. TORKILDSEN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a speech made by an outstanding young man from Massachusetts, one who reminded me just how important it is to remember who made this country what it is today, the greatest country in the world. The son of Arthur and Susan Silbert of Ipswich, Christopher Barletta

is an 18-year-old who recently graduated from Ipswich High School in Massachusetts. Aside from being an accomplished musician, Chris was one of just 54 students chosen among 116,000 who participated in a contest sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary. Chris's speech expresses just how fortunate we are to be Americans.

The contest theme this year was "Answering America's Call." Mr. Barletta's speech touched upon such topics as the Normandy invasion, victory parades for the fighting men and women across the country, and the willingness of people to help their country any way they could. In short, he outlined ways people were proud of the America they called home, they were proud to be Americans.

We in Congress need to remember that most of what makes America great does not come from Washington. America's greatness resides in the cities, towns, churches, synagogues, community organizations, and most importantly the citizens across the country. It resides in the work and dedication of Americans like Christopher Barletta. Mr. Speaker, I applaud what this young man wrote and request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ANSWERING AMERICA'S CALL

(By Christopher Barletta)

A little while back I found myself rummaging through an old cedar chest that my family keeps tucked away in our basement. The chest is an heirloom that has been passed down from generation to generation but there are things added to it constantly, "new memories" if you will. During my search I came across some remarkable things: some black and white photographs of relatives that I never had the good fortune of meeting. Some sheet music written by my uncle and friend Irving Berlin and a baseball signed by the 1954 Boston Red Sox; but the one thing that I came across that I cherished the most and took an interest in was my grandfather's army jacket from his service in World War II. It was green with three gold buttons up the front and had some sort of triangular design on the left sleeve. I tried it on only to discover that it was much too large for me, so I placed the moth-ball-scented jacket back into the chest.

I then started to see visions that are familiar to all of us: the Normandy invasion, parades for the victorious American fighting man and hundreds of proud Americans waving their country's flag. People were proud of the America they called home. Men were willing to fight for her beliefs, while women went to work in shops and plants, supplying our armed forces with the tools they needed to win battles in Europe and the South Pacific. Today, however, things have changed: attitudes have warped and pride is gone. Are people willing to go to war without being drafted? Are men and women willing to do manual labor in factories to supply our Defense Department? Would we win World War II again if it were to happen tomorrow? If America were to call for our assistance, our sacrifice, how would we answer her call? Would we answer her call at all? Are we even listening?

The point is that these questions didn't exist during the 1940's. People understood their role in being an American. It was understood that men would fight for their country, their families, and their way of life. An American's work was a priority. People knew what they were expected to do as Americans—and did it. Too many Americans today are lazy. They have forgotten their role, their purpose, and their way of life.

They no longer put pride into the watch or car that they help create, the way they used to. They no longer appreciate the privilege of voting, or bother to exercise it.

They don't even show respect to other people. As President Jimmy Carter said, "America is suffering from a sickness of spirit." All my grandfather does now is complain about how the country is going downhill, and how the poverty level is out of control. He's a good man, but he is one of America's problems, along with the 250 million other Americans who love to complain but do nothing to solve the problems they complain about. As Edmund Burke said, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." It is time for each and every one of us to start answering America's call.

The answer is as simple as respect, generosity, and pride. Each one of us has the heart to volunteer some of our time to helping someone else. I don't mean something as monumental as taking someone in to live in our homes, or even giving them money. Let's start small, but let's start now. I mean, let's say hello to people on the street. I know how good a hello makes me feel. Let's look around and notice each other, let's respect our fellow Americans for who they are and let's accept our differences. Let's enjoy each other. Let's celebrate our diversity.

And let's do things right the first time instead of letting the next person do them. Let's take pride in ourselves, our fellow Americans, and all the men and women who fought so that we could have what we do today: the freedom to choose. America is still the land of opportunity, and we are still entitled to pursue our own happiness. Let's not take what we have for granted by only doing what we have to do. We can help every American learn to respect the country we call home enough to assume a fair share of responsibility for her well-being. When each of us answers America's call, we ensure not only our own freedom, but the continued freedom of generations to come. Let us do all that is necessary now, so that one day when my curious grandson feels like browsing through a cedar chest in his family's basement, he won't need to question what has happened. He will be free to experience a simple surge of pride and respect for himself, his family, and his country—and he will naturally understand and undertake his duty to America.

THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN KOREA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, which I chair, was briefed by Kim Sang-Chul, chairman of the Korea American Friendship Society. I am inserting his comprehensive statement in the RECORD for the information of my colleagues:

REMARKS BY KIM SANG-CHUL, CHAIRMAN,
KOREA AMERICA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

Honorable Chairman, and members: I wish to thank you for inviting me here to speak on the human rights situation in Korea.

I. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Korea has a checkered history. It has experienced numerous foreign invasions throughout its 5000-year history. However, it has managed to keep its independence and its people have made the country what it is today—a democratic, independent and eco-

nomically thriving country—through patience, perseverance, and hard work.

From ancient times, we have been called the white-clad people for our love of purity and justice, symbolized by Koreans' traditional white clothing. Korea is a small nation in terms of its territory. But it is not small in terms of its aspirations. We have achieved miraculous economic growth and established a democratic government through fair elections in a short period of time. We are optimistic about our future. We will probably be able to join the ranks of advanced countries in the first part of the next century, thereby allowing us to play a more important role in the international community for the promotion of world peace, freedom, justice and prosperity.

Our successful journey on the path toward economic prosperity and political freedom could not, by any means, be described as smooth. We endured hardship for 36 years under Japanese colonial rule. The nation was in chaos and the national economy was completely devastated as a result of the Korean War.

Thanks to the sacrifices of our allies, we were able to fend off communist aggression and achieve peace, however fragile it may be.

Thanks to the support of our allies and friends, we were able to overcome the devastation of the tragic war, rebuild the nation and its economy, achieve freedom and establish a democratic government.

The road leading to freedom and democracy in Korea has been bumpy. We were under the rule of military governments for almost 30 years from 1961 through 1992. There is no denying that many human rights violations occurred during this period.

II. HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

On September 26, 1985, I met Mr. Kim Keun-Tae at the prosecutor's office. Mr. Kim was in custody for investigation of his alleged anti-government activities. He revealed that he was tortured with electric shocks and water-torture and showed me the wounds on the back of his foot. I was deeply distressed for three days after seeing his wounds. I decided to follow my conscience and submit an unprecedented application for a court order to preserve evidence of Mr. Kim's wounds.

The revelation of Mr. Kim's torture was a very strong challenge to the powerful Chun Doo-Whan government. As a result of my action, the judge had to provide Mr. Kim an opportunity to make a detailed statement about his suffering caused by the torture during the investigation.

Mr. Kim's 40-minute-long statement shocked the courtroom audience and the press, which somehow managed to report parts of Mr. Kim's testimony.

As a consequence, the telephones in my law office and my residence were tapped and government auditors began an investigation of my tax returns.

However, I prevailed in a lawsuit against the policemen who tortured Mr. Kim and in a suit demanding compensation for the damage he suffered.

On July 5, 1986, as one of the lawyers of a nine-member legal team, I filed a lawsuit against the police officers responsible for the sexual torture of Kwon In-Sook, a female college student.

I remember delivering to Ms. Kwon a secret letter from Cardinal Kim Su-Whan, in which he encouraged her in her time of distress and agony.

The exposure of the sexual torture incident created a backlash against police brutality and the immorality of the government. On Jan. 14, 1987, another case of torture by the police resulted in the death of a Seoul National University student. The death of Pak

Chong-Chol shocked citizens and the popular anti-government movement started to expand.

On April 13, 1987, President Chun refused to accept a direct presidential election to choose his successor. In May, as a member of the executive committee of the Citizens Movement for a Democratic Constitution, I participated in a peaceful march that drew the enthusiastic support of people across the nation.

The ruling party's presidential candidates, Roh Tae-Woo, had to issue his so-called July 29 declaration, accommodating the people's demand for a direct presidential election and other democratization measures.

In ten years, even the rivers and mountains will change, according to an old Korean saying. We are witnessing tremendous changes in my country these days. Two former presidents of Korea are in custody pending their trials on various criminal charges. On the other hand, Kim Keun-Tae is a vice president of the major opposition party and one of his old friends who attended his trial is now the spokesman for the ruling party.

How we evaluate the present political situation in the Republic of Korea, including the human rights situation and the national security situation, is by no means a simple issue. It is rather complicated. I will, however, pick out a few important issues and try to present an objective view of the current situation in Korea. I believe that there is a consensus that the human rights situation in the Republic of Korea has improved significantly.

There could be some isolated human rights violations which are not uncommon even in the most developed countries. At present I am really concerned about violent demonstrations, the irresponsibility of the press and citizen's lack of a sense of duty.

The National Security Law of the Republic of Korea has been the focus of the attention of the U.S. Government. I proposed the repeal of the National Security Law and suggested that the government include its relevant articles in the criminal code when I submitted my opinion on the revision of criminal law in Jan. 1985. I also proposed the replacement of the National Security Law with the Protection of Democratic Order Law when I was a national policy adviser to Kim Young-sam, the then presidential candidate of the opposition party.

However, I completely changed my mind after cautiously watching the advent of the so-called "Mass Revolution" movement since 1989. Korea is the only country in the world which is divided into two opposing ideological camps: the democratic and free Republic of Korea and the communist North Korea. North Korea has tried to overthrow the government of the Republic of Korea ever since its establishment. We should not forget that North Korea's military forces are heavily concentrated along the Demilitarized Zone, about 30 miles from Seoul. It will take only six minutes for North Korea's fighter planes to reach Seoul. These fighter planes were relocated closer to the DMZ last October.

A North Korean agent, Kim Tong-shick, was arrested after a gun fight when he was discovered by South Korean police last October. He was heavily armed. He confirmed that besides his most recent infiltration he was sent to the Republic of Korea five years ago, when he crossed the border to North Korea with a high-ranking North Korean female agent who operated in the south for 12 years since 1980, and newly recruited labor movement leaders in the South.

He made contacts with Ham Wun-Kyung, who led a violent demonstration and sit-in at the USIA in Seoul, and other student activists. Kim revealed his identity and discussed